

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUDAPE 00873 101509Z

43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NIC-01 DRC-01 CU-04 /106 W

----- 030966

R 101455Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1141

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAUGE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 0873

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR HU

SUBJ: MARCH HSWP CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

1. VARNAI FERENC, INFLUENTIAL, WELL-INFORMED AND HIGHLY AUTHORITATIVE POLITICAL EDITOR OF HSWP DAILY NEPSZABADSAG MADE A NUMBER OF COMMENTS ON THE RECENT CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING DURING A LUNCH ON APRIL 8 WITH THE PAO WHICH WERE MORE FRANK AND WENT FURTHER IN SOME RESPECTS THAN COMMENTS HEARD SO FAR FROM OTHER AUTHORITATIVE HUNGARIAN SOURCES. THIS CABLE SUMMARIZES STATEMENTS, WITH DETAILED MEMCON TO FOLLOW.

2. REFERRING TO NYERS BY NAME, VARNAI SAID HE WAS DEMOTED BECAUSE QUOTE HE BECAME TOO RIGID IN CONSIDERING CHANGE, ANY CHANGE, IN THE SYSTEM WHICH HE FELT HE ALONE CREATED, WHEN IN FACT MANY OTHERS PLAYED AN EQUALLY IMPORTANT ROLE UNQUOTE. WHEN ASKED WHAT SPECIFIC CHANGES NYERS RESISTED, VARNAI INSISTED NO

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BUDAPE 00873 101509Z

MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES PLANNED, BUT CONTINUOUS

ADJUSTEMENTS TO SUCH PROBLEMS AS 1971 OVERINVESTMENT AND 1972 SALARY INCREASES TO INDUSTRIAL WORKERS WILL ALWAYS BE NECESSARY IN A NEW AND STILL DEVELOPING SYSTEM, AND NYERS NOT ONLY RESISTED CONSIDERING NEW CHANGES BUT DID NOT WHOLEHEARTEDLY COOPERATE IN IMPLEMENTING THE EARLIER ONES.

3. VARNAI SAID THAT KADAR'S PERSONALITY IS BIGGEST ASSURANCE NO MAJOR POLICY CHANGES PLANNED, FIRST BECAUSE HE QUOTE WOULD NEVER MAKE ANY SUBSTANTIVE POLICY CHANGES WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL BY A PARTY CONGRESS, A CONCEPT TO WHICH HE ADHERES WITH TOTAL CONVICTION, AND SECOND BECAUSE THERE IS NO PRESSINGLY URGENT PROBLEM AND HE IS A MAN WHO WEIGHS EVERYTHING SEVEN TIMES BEFORE DECIDING UNQUOTE. VARNAI ALSO SAID QUOTE I CAN TELL YOU WITH 100 PERCENT ASSURANCE THAT KADAR DOES NOT INTEND TO RETIRE AT THE NEXT PARTY CONGRESS. HE IS IN GOOD HEALTH AND THERE IS NO ONE IN HUNGARY WHO CAN APPROACH THE RESPECT AND TRUST THE PEOPLE HAVE IN HIM UNQUOTE.

4. REFERRING TO ACZEL BY NAME ALSO, VARNAI SAID HE WAS DEMOTED AS WELL, BUT TO A MUCH LESSER DEGREE AND NOT FOR IDEOLOGICAL REASONS. HE SAID QUOTE ACZEL HAD BECOME OVERLY-INVOLVED IN THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CULTURAL POLICY BECAUSE OF HIS AUTHORITY IN THE FIELD, AND IT WAS DECIDED THAT HE SHOULD BE IN THE GOVERNMENT WHERE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUCH IMPLEMENTATION LIES UNQUOTE. VARNAI ALSO SAID THAT ACZEL IS QUOTE A BIT TOO MERCURIAL, MAKING TOO MANY DECISIONS AND CHANGING HIS MIND ON THEM FROM ONE WEEK TO THE NEXT UNQUOTE. EMPHASIZING THAT THIS CHANGE WILL HAVE NO IMPACT ON EXTERNAL CULTURAL CONTACTS, VARNAI SAID ACZEL WILL WORK ON THE INTENSIFICATION OF INTRNAL CULTURAL, IDEOLOGICAL AND EDUCATIONAL MEASURES, WHILE ANSWERING IN THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE TO MIKLOS OVARI NOW RESPONSIBLE FOR CULTURALPOLICY AND TO IMRE GYORI RESPONSIBLE FOR AGITATION AND PROPAGANDA. PEDERSEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, PARTY LINE, JOURNALISTS, PARTY MEETINGS, PARTY LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BUDAPE00873
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740082-0830
From: BUDAPEST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740453/aaaabvtz.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 MAY 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <12 JUN 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MARCH HSWP CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING
TAGS: PFOR, HU, HSWP, (FERENC, VARNAI), (NYERS), (KADAR), (ACZEL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005